



## PRESS RELEASE

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Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb  
Supreme Court of Alabama

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 9, 2010

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### **Chief Justice Cobb Bringing Together Judges From Around the State for Sentencing Workshop**

**Montgomery, AL** -- On Wednesday, September 8, Alabama Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb convened judges, probation officers, and district attorneys from across the state to address sentencing and corrections issues in their jurisdictions during a three-day Sentencing Workshop. Over the course of the workshop, state judicial leaders and others will discuss strategies for supervising offenders in the community, as well as hear about programs available to those sentenced to the state corrections system. Judges from across the country will also attend the workshop.

Facilitators and presenters will also discuss findings from a preliminary analysis of the criminal justice system conducted by the Alabama Public Safety and Sentencing Coalition, whose members include legislators, members of the judiciary, district attorneys, defense lawyers, the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Sentencing Commission. The Coalition is convened by the Chief Justice and is receiving technical assistance from the Vera Institute of Justice and the Public Safety Performance Project of the Pew Center on the States. The Coalition will be working over the next several months to conduct a comprehensive review of the state's sentencing trends and practices in order to recommend data-driven policies to the state legislature that will cut corrections costs, hold offenders accountable and enhance public safety.

The Sentencing Workshop will feature remarks from a bipartisan roster of speakers from the Alabama legislative and judicial branches, including Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb and U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions. *The press is invited to attend the Workshop on Friday, September 10, from 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.*

**WHAT:** Sentencing and Corrections Policy Workshop and Conference  
**WHEN:** Friday, September 10, 2010.  
**WHERE:** The Renaissance Hotel & Spa, Montgomery, AL  
**WHO:** Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb, U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions  
**MEDIA:** Media invited to attend select conference sessions (see next page for details)

**Friday, September 10, 2010**

- 8:30-9:00      ***Five Fallacies of Crime & Punishment***  
                    ***Adam Gelb, Director, Pew Public Safety Performance Project***
- 10:30-11:00    **Remarks from U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions**
- 11:45-12:30    **Policies That Make Cents: What Difference Does It Make?**  
                    **State Representative Jerry Madden (R-TX)**
- 12:30            **Adjourn**

